

Media Statement



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TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 08 JUNE 2016

RE: 20 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR MURDER

A man will spend 20 years in jail after sentences of 20 years for murder and 20 years for robbery were ordered to run concurrently by the Johannesburg High Court.

William Jabulane Matjeke from Diepsloot stood trial on five counts of murder, attempted murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances and contravening the provisions of the National Road Traffic Act.

Matjeke, a former taxi driver, was convicted of driving over the deceased on a public road near Diepsloot. The deceased and a friend (who was the only witness in the matter) were passengers in Matjeke's taxi which they alighted after a fight ensued after the taxi stopped to pick up five more passengers.

The accused, after driving for almost a kilometre, made a u-turn to look for the people who fired at his taxi. He found both the deceased and his friend along the way, mistook them as the people who shot at his taxi and drove over them, instantly killing the deceased.

The state maintained in its arguments that the murder was intentional and premeditated in that the accused intentionally went looking for the deceased and his friend. Advocate Patric Mkhari called for the court to impose life imprisonment as prescribed in the minimum sentence act for premeditated murder.

The court accepted the state's version but however concluded that substantial and compelling circumstances existed for the court to deviate from imposing life imprisonment.

The NPA accepts the court's decision and will continue to be the voice of society.

Kind Regards

Hurbetin Phindi Louw

Regional Spokesperson: DPP South Gauteng

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